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LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter No. 1/10/213 dated 16 June 1992, I wish to inform you that United States aircraft carried out sorties over northern Iraq during which they dropped incendiary materials on fields and villages, which resulted in the burning of agricultural crops, as follows:

1. The village of Khazaf Kabir, situated in the Humaydat subdistrict (Governorate of Ninawa), situated 35 km from the city of Mosul. These areas were subjected to the dropping of incendiary materials on 5 June 1992 by three aircraft flying at low altitudes. The burnt area amounted to 1,180 dunums, which were planted with wheat and barley.

2. The village of Masa'id, in the Governorate of Ninawa, situated at a distance of 40 km from the city of Mosul. The field belonging to the farmer Tha'ir Abd Allah al-Rashidi, which was planted with wheat and barley, was burnt on 5 June 1992. The area of the burnt land was 500 dunums.

The fields of Hajj Abd Muhammad al-Hajj Hawran, which were planted with wheat and barley and had an area of 200 dunums, were subjected to fire due to incendiary materials dropped by a single aircraft on 6 June 1992 at noon.

3. In the village of Shuhada', in the Governorate of Ninawa, situated approximately 30 km from the city of Mosul, the fields of the farmers Jasim al-Abd, Hajj Dhanun al-Ghazal and Muhammad al-Hasan, which were planted with wheat and barley, were subjected to fire on 7 June 1992, the burnt area being 2,500 dunums.

4. The village of Bakhairat and the village of Jadn, in the subdistrict of Hammam al-Alil, the village of Shaykh Ibrahim, in the subdistrict of Muhallabiya, and the village of Tarjila, in the subdistrict of Bartalah, all of which are in the Governorate of Ninawa, were subjected to fire due to United States aircraft at 3 p.m. on 7 June 1992, the area of significantly damaged fields being 5,000 dunums.

5. In the village of Tall Khazaf al-Kabir, in the Governorate of Ninawa, lands belonging to the farmers Hamid Husayn Abd Allah, Hamid Quduri Abdullah and Mahmud Muhammad Abdullah were subjected to fire, the area of the damaged fields being 2,500 dunums.

My Government strongly protests these acts which are in violation of international law and humanitarian principles.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abd al-Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative